

TAGGART'S FRIENDS REPLY.

COMPLAIN OF JUDGE PARKER'S TREATMENT OF HIM.

He Was Handicapped From the Beginning, They Say—That Matter of \$50,000—Taggart Said to Be Planning an Alliance With Bryan for 1908 Campaign.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 31.—The friends of Chairman Taggart of the Democratic national committee say that it is not fair to put on his shoulders all the blame for the mismanagement of the Democratic Presidential canvass. They declare that he was handicapped from beginning to end and that he left New York in deep disgust before the election, and with a firm conviction that the people were about to reject Judge Parker.

This is the story told by friends of Mr. Taggart regarding his attitude as a candidate for chairman of the national committee and his troubles as chairman:

Immediately after Judge Parker's nomination and the meeting at St. Louis of a majority of the national committee, who voted for Taggart as chairman, John W. Kern went to see Judge Parker at Esopus as the representative of Taggart. He told Judge Parker all that had passed at St. Louis, and said that Taggart was the choice of Western Democrats for the chairmanship, but he held his aspirations entirely subject to Judge Parker's views, feeling that the Judge had a greater personal interest in the campaign than any one else and that the national chairman should be wholly acceptable to him.

Judge Parker, it is said, refused at first to commit himself in any way, but before Kern left Esopus he was assured that Taggart was in no sense objectionable to the candidate.

Following Taggart's election he called upon Judge Parker and had a private conference with him. He spoke of the necessity for harmony in the committee and intimated that it was only natural that he should desire to have some of his close personal friends on the executive and advisory committees—men whom he knew to be in sympathy with him and generously loyal to party and candidate.

He asked for suggestions as to the make-up of these committees, and Judge Parker promised to consult with him further in the matter. Taggart came back to Indiana to settle up some private business matters before entering upon his duties as chairman, and expected to confer with Judge Parker again before making any appointments.

But he had been here only a few days when he was surprised to receive a letter from Sheehan accepting the chairmanship of the executive committee. The next letter he opened was from August Belmont, and thanked Taggart for appointing him. Further along in his mail was a letter from Judge Parker, who had named all the members of the executive committee and assigned to each the place he should hold during the campaign. Taggart was dumbfounded when he read this letter, for he saw that the Judge had taken it upon himself to make appointments, and that he had taken upon himself the appointment of the committee, and, as was indicated by Sheehan's and Belmont's letters, had notified them at least of their selection.

A conference of Taggart's friends here was called and the list was submitted to them. Kern and Joe Fanning stormed at Parker's action and advised that the entire list be rejected. Taggart was undecided, but at every suggestion he came back to the question: "Parker's candidate, and how are you going to reject his selections?"

On the list was the name of Campau of Michigan, one of the Western Democrats who had schemed to defeat Taggart, and his name was stricken off, but it was the only one that Taggart refused to approve, and the list was given out here by Taggart as his own appointments.

The following is the version given by Mr. Taggart's friends regarding another matter: According to them, Mr. Taggart discussed with the members of the executive committee conditions in Indiana as in other States and, incidentally, the *Sentinel*, owned by Taggart, was mentioned in connection with the work that newspapers in this State were doing for the party.

There had been some requests by newspapers for assistance from the committee, but these had been turned down. In the discussion regarding the newspapers Taggart admitted that the *Sentinel* was greatly hampered by lack of money, and one member of the committee asked what it would take to put the paper on a paying basis. "Oh," said Taggart, "3,000, at least."

This, declare his friends, is the only basis for the statement that he asked for \$50,000 from the committee on the ground that, if it were not paid, the *Sentinel* would go to the wall. And it is said that the reference to the paper was made only in a general way, and not in connection with subsidizing any sheets, and that the reference to the needs of the *Sentinel* was not made with the expectation or desire of receiving aid for the paper, for there was never a time in the campaign that a receivership was imminent or that Mr. Taggart was not willing to put up money out of his own pocket to keep it on its feet till after the election.

It is not denied that the *Sentinel* has not been a profitable venture to Taggart so far. The plans in regard to it are of interest. Efforts have recently been made to form a joint stock company to buy the *Sentinel*, and Bryan has been asked to take stock and assume editorial management, but how far this deal has progressed is not known. A close friend of Bryan has been here and has gone carefully over the books of the paper, and some of the Democratic leaders are hopeful that Bryan may be induced to head a company for the purchase of the State organ.

The idea of the backers of this scheme is to consolidate the *Sentinel* with the *Commoner*, make it a morning daily and strike out for circulation with the influence they believe the names of Bryan would carry. They say that Bryan's connection with such a venture would make it national from the start and that it could be made to pay handsomely, as well as exert a great influence in party affairs. However, the Nebraska regards it as not known here.

Except with his very intimate friends, Taggart refuses to discuss either business matters or his recent relations with members of the national executive committee. At the same time, he has industriously working to get in touch with Western Democratic sentiment and is holding frequent

conferences with leading Democrats of the West with reference to party policies.

The conferences with these men are all held at French Lick, and the men who attend them are Taggart's guests. Enough has leaked out to warrant the statement that he is expecting to succeed himself as national chairman, that he expects to overthrow the so-called New York or Eastern clique that gave him so much trouble during the past campaign, and that he believes Bryan will be the next candidate of the party and will retrieve some of its losses even if not elected President.

He has told his visitors of his troubles and his sacrifices during the campaign to prevent a rupture in the party, and many who have heard him are convinced that, if left alone to pursue his own policies, the party would not have met the miserable defeat which it suffered in the recent election. There can be no question that he is making plans now for reelection as national chairman and that his campaign will be distinctly Western, as against the Eastern domination of the recent campaign.

"Every friend of Taggart on the national committee will be a candidate for reelection four years hence, and Taggart will be chairman, and the campaign will be run with a Western idea," said a leading Democrat to-day.

TEACHERS IN THE FAR WEST.

Why Women Have Taken the Places of Men in the Schoolhouses.

A man from a Far Western State drifted into the office of the Board of Education in this city and made inquiries about the number of men and women teachers employed in the public schools.

"I am glad," he said, after he had received the information, "that there yet remain some male teachers."

"Why does that surprise you?" he was asked.

"It is so different in the Far Western States," he answered. "It may astonish you to know that the man schoolteacher is becoming so scarce west of the Missouri River that he is classified as a vanishing species, the same as the bison."

"I am not saying that the result is hurting the educational system of the part of the continent from which I hail. The woman teacher is doing her work satisfactorily. Her pay with us is equal to that of the man teacher wherever he is found. But you have to travel miles in some sections before you find a teacher who used to wield the rod in the good old way."

"I was talking with the principal of a normal school in Colorado before I left, and he told me that the man who takes course for the purpose of teaching is now the exception. I asked him how he accounted for it."

"He traced the beginning of the disappearance back to the civil war. The school teachers laid aside the chalk and the rod and enlisted. Many of them never came back. When they went away to fight, the children had to be educated. At first this system of education was of the home made sort. The mothers taught the girls; the boys at home had to do the work. Thus the girls became teachers, and they took the places of the schoolteachers who had gone to the front."

"You folks in the East do not notice it, for your population is so much greater than ours. You had men who stayed at home. Many who came into your State or country were termed 'bachelors.' The opportunities to teach were more numerous with you than with us."

"The men who went West from Eastern States went to make their fortunes in mining or in other pursuits. The women kept pushing their way into the schoolhouses."

"The teachers who returned from the war found the places in the schoolhouses taken by women. Even if it had been otherwise the returning soldiers who had previously taught were either broken down physically or they had to engage in work which brought better and quicker returns."

"You see, men were still scarce in the West at that time. They were needed in the stores, the factories and the mines. One Western State that I have in mind sent 75,000 men to the front for the Union. You people here have no conception of what that meant to a State that was, by comparison, sparsely populated."

"Some of the far Western States have never recovered from that drain. Immigration has done a good deal to make up for it in many ways, but not in the educational way."

"And it will come about that the women have become the teachers, and they have increased until they are now as twenty to one of the opposite sex. In twenty-five years there won't be a male teacher in the public schools of the far West."

MUSIC THAT WON'T DIE.

The Spanish Chanson "La Paloma" Rivals "The Maiden's Prayer" in Longevity.

It is often said that the tenor's popularity of "The Maiden's Prayer" as a piece of instrumental music remains unchallenged. It is unchallenged so far as any other like piece of music is concerned; but there is another piece of music, vocal and instrumental, which, on the stage at least, and for a peculiar reason, rivals and may exceed it in popularity. It is the Spanish song or chanson "La Paloma" (The Dove).

Thirty years ago it first came into vogue as a typical Spanish song, and continuously since and to the disregard of all other like songs it is heard whenever a musical programme is to include anything Spanish. "La Paloma" is just one of a thousand or more Spanish descriptive songs which have a dance accompaniment, but for the reason it has become, as it were, acclimated to the United States, and every effort, however and by whomsoever made, to supersede it with some other and newer Spanish song seems predestined to failure.

The temporary popularity of some songs is difficult to account for. Usually the more popular a song is the sooner it becomes so completely hackneyed as to be rejected. The isolated case of "La Paloma," sung, danced, rendered on guitars and mandolins used as an accompaniment (and most frequently) as an encore, can be accounted for apparently in no other way than by the fact that it has through long repetition come to be acknowledged as the typical and characteristic Spanish song. On the theory of it's ours, we saw it first, its popularity appears to endure unabated.

German Department Stores and Taxes.

From the Merchants' Legislative League Advocate.

The special taxes levied in Germany on the department houses in the year 1904 have been collected ever since; but in the opinion of the Chemnitz Chamber of Commerce, expressed in its annual report, the plan has failed entirely of its purpose. This probably was expected by the most intelligent observers of the situation. The stores merely shifted the burden of the tax from themselves to the manufacturers from whom they draw their supplies.

In this manner, says the report, "they defeat entirely the intention of the law by making still more income the existence of the manufacturing classes, who already are suffering severely under the present regime of socialist legislation. The small dealer repays the improvement in his position as occurred, and the tax has thus left no perceptible trace of an influence for the better."

SOBRIETY AMONG THE SPORTS

WHY BOOKMAKERS AND PLUNGERS RIDE ON WATER WAGON.

Surprising Lack of Intoxication Among Those Who Speculate at the Race Tracks—Must Have Clear Heads, They Say—An Example Worthy of Notice.

"How many drunken men did you see this year at the racetracks?" asked a Pinkerton sleuth the other day, while talking matters over at the Hoffman House with a regular.

"There were mighty few of them, I'll admit," answered the regular, quickly. "In fact, I don't recollect seeing more than half a dozen the whole season."

"The racetrack is not the place for drunken men," continued the Pinkerton. "It is a place where a clear head and ready intellect count."

And the Pinkerton was correct in his assertion, for there are many passengers on the water wagon at the metropolitan racetracks. It is an accepted fact that very little drinking is done by the smart sporting men who make the racetrack their place of business. They have too much on their minds. A big bookmaker who sits on a high stool all the afternoon and handles thousands of dollars cannot indulge in intoxicants. One drink of whiskey may upset him completely. He must keep cool, cold in fact, so that he can think quickly, use his best judgment and know all the time what is going on around him.

In a word, it requires nerve, and plenty of it, to run a book in the ring of a metropolitan racetrack, and the men who conduct these books usually are the sharpest witted fellows in the world. It is not considered injurious to smoke, so the bookmakers usually transform themselves into human chimneys; but that is their only vice during business hours.

"Come and have a drink!" is an invitation extended among friends all over the civilized world. When it is extended to a bookmaker or a plunger at the racetrack he either declines politely or walks to the bar and says:

"Give me a little water."

The bartender lays a glass with mineral water of some kind and the gambler with the cool head raises it to his lips and remarks:

"Here's luck!"

Once in a while, however, one of these wise fellows is caught out of line. Possibly he needs relaxation from the great strain in the betting ring, or possibly he feels that he has earned the right to celebrate because of some heavy winnings, but no matter what the reason, when they decide to stop off for a water wagon temporarily, he does not overstep the limits of propriety at the racetrack. What he may do away from the track is another matter, but it cannot be denied that sobriety among bookmakers at the tracks is nearly always the prevalent good feature.

One of the best known bookmakers used to play a trick in the days of Guttenberg that worked like a charm. The regular then, as now, knew that the layers did not make a practice of drinking, so when this particular plunger now and then reeled to his box and then shouted the odds in a wild eyed fashion the opinion prevailed that he had a "beautiful package."

The bookie was foxy all the time and was as sober as a Judge, but just to attract a crowd and incidentally get the business he assumed the appearance of a person who was out for the time of his life. With particular shrewdness he would pick out a horse that was in some favor and lay against him. Then he would tear off his coat, collar and tie, and yell at the crowd until he was black in the face:

"Come on now and play So and So! You guys think he will win! Well, here's 3 to 1; yes, 4 to 1, that he doesn't!"

"He's soaked!" the regulars would cry, and then jump forward to play the horse. But when on such occasions the horse thus manipulated did not win, the impression began to gain ground that the bookmaker was playing a slick game, and after a while the crowd was on. But there is no chance to fake nowadays, because there are too many bookmakers and too much bustle in the ring. A bookmaker who cleaned up \$75,000 on the horse just ended said to this Sox man the other day:

"I do not know of a single big bookmaker who ever drank too much at the racetrack, and most of them never drank at all. It doesn't pay, and is dangerous. I have not had a drink of spirits since I was a boy, but I am an inveterate smoker."

"My nerves in good shape. I find that they are a comfort to me at the most trying moments, and I smoke thirty of them a day, as strong as I can get them. I also drink half a dozen cups of coffee during the day, which is a tonic. But that is all. Late hours and dissipation do not go well with my kind of business."

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TUESDAY, 11:30 to 2 o'clock.

Six Courses.

49c.

(Restaurant.)

R. H. Macy & Co.'s Attractions Are Their Low Prices.

Macy's B'way at 6th Av. 34th to 35th St.

Midwinter Sale of Household Linens.—1st Fl.

BED SPREADS.

Bed Spreads, a special value—fringed with cut corners, for brass beds, both in single and double bed sizes, at \$1.31, \$1.39, \$1.48 and \$1.98.

CROCHET BED SPREADS.

Hemmed Crochet Bed Spreads—at 69c, 84c, 94c and 98c.

BLEACHED SHEETS.

Special—A large lot of Bleached Sheets—with seams in center; size 72x90 inches, at 20c.

BATH MATS.

Turkish Bath Mats, size 27x45 inches, our regular price 62c, each; special at 39c.

Table Damasks---Napkins to Match.

Scotch Double Damasks, one of the best qualities ever manufactured, 72 inches wide, regularly sold by jobbers everywhere at \$1.50 a yard, our special price for this sale . . . . . \$1.08

Napkins to match the above, three-quarter size; regularly sold at \$4.50 a dozen, our price . . . . . \$3.48

The above we consider one of the best values that have ever been offered in high class Linens.

"Red Star" Damasks, beautiful designs and perfectly laundered, 72 inches wide; our price, a yard . . . . . 98c

Napkins to match the above—20x20 inches; dozen \$2.03 22x22 inches; dozen \$2.48 24x24 inches; dozen \$2.94

Table Damasks.

Pure Linen Damask, full-bleached, very heavy quality, 70 inches wide, retailed elsewhere at 75c, a yard; our price for this sale . . . . . 59c

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All- linen Table Cloths, with imitation hemstitching, size 60x80 inches; also a large lot of Fringed Table Cloths, with drawn-work borders, size 62x87 inches; regularly retailed at \$1.25 each; your choice, for this sale, at . . . . . 96c

Pure Linen Hemstitched Table Cloths—our own importation—at one-third less than regular retail prices:—

62x68 inches . . . . . \$1.36 62x82 inches . . . . . \$1.59 62x94 inches . . . . . \$1.83

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Damask Napkins.

Pure Linen Napkins, good wearing qualities, perfect laundering, splendid values:—

20x20 inches, a dozen . . . . . 97c 23x23 inches, a dozen . . . . . \$1.98

20x20 inches, a dozen . . . . . \$1.39 22x22 inches, a dozen . . . . . \$2.59

Splendid Towel Values.

Figured Huckaback and Mottie Weave Hemmed Towels, size 18x35 inches, elsewhere at 12c; our price . . . . . 10c

All Linen Hemmed Huckaback Towels, size 17x33 inches, at . . . . . 12c

All Linen Hemstitched Huckaback Towels, with damask borders, size 22x41 inches . . . . . 24c

All Linen Hemmed Huckaback Towels, extra fine quality, size 20x40 and 22x43 inches, sold elsewhere at 35c; our price . . . . . 27c

Full Bleached Turkish Towels, special value:—

Hemmed—size 22x44 inches . . . . . 19c each

Fringed—size 23x54 inches . . . . . 19c each

Fringed—size 27x54 inches . . . . . 19c each

The above are sold elsewhere at 25c each.

All Linen Crashes—Three splendid values:—

17 inches wide; elsewhere 10c, yard, our price . . . . . 8c

17 1/2 inches wide; elsewhere 11c, yard, our price . . . . . 9c

18 inches wide; elsewhere 12c, yard, our price . . . . . 10c

"Fruit of the Loom" and "Atlantic Mills"

Sheets and Pillow Cases.

An unprecedented assortment of sizes. At prices even we have never beaten. Made as nicely as the handwork of a housewife. Torn—not cut—from the piece. All finished with 2 1/2-in. hems.

"FRUIT OF THE LOOM."

HEMMED SHEETS:—

Size 54x 90 inches, at 44c.

Size 63x 90 inches, at 51c.

Size 63x 99 inches, at 56c.

Size 72x 90 inches, at 54c.

Size 72x 99 inches, at 59c.

Size 81x 90 inches, at 59c.

Size 81x 99 inches, at 64c.

Size 81x108 inches, at 69c.

Size 90x 90 inches, at 64c.

Size 90x 99 inches, at 69c.

Size 90x108 inches, at 74c.

HEMSTITCHED SHEETS:—

Size 63x 90 inches, at 61c.

Size 72x 90 inches, at 58c.

Size 81x 90 inches, at 58c.

Size 81x 99 inches, at 63c.

Size 90x 90 inches, at 66c.

Size 90x 99 inches, at 71c.

HEMMED CASES:—

Size 42x36 inches, at 13c.

Size 45x36 inches, at 14c.

Size 50x36 inches, at 15c.

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Size 45x38 1/2 in., at 15c.

Size 50x38 1/2 in., at 16c.

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Size 42x38 1/2 in., at 17c.

Size 45x38 1/2 in., at 18c.

Size 50x38 1/2 in., at 19c.

Size 54x38 1/2 in., at 21c.

Wash Goods Specials

In the Basement:

300 Pieces of Mercerized Suitings, weight suitable for the making of two-piece suits; permanent lustre in pink, champagne, reseda, coral, cadet, pale blue and combinations of black on green, black on pink and black on cadet. These goods have been retailed elsewhere at 40c and 45c, a yard—we secured the entire lot at a low price and offer them at . . . . . 12c

These on the Main Floor:

Complete assortment of all the newest Wash Fabrics, representing the very best foreign and domestic mills. We show a new shipment of Plumetis, Printed Tulle, Organdie Lisse, Organdie Raye, Soie, Organdie Carreaux, Nouveaux, Embroidered Linen, Embroidered Chambray, Embroidered Muslins and Batistes, Embroidered Bourrette, &c., &c.

At 19c. Best quality Irish Dimity made in Belfast—large variety of designs, including dots, ring dots, roses, forget-me-nots, apple blossoms, moss roses (large, medium and small designs), on white and tinted grounds and all the latest color combinations.

At 15c. We offer a shipment direct from Glasgow of Knicker Volles, Bourrettes and Union Linen, in green, heliochrome, pink, pale blue, cadet, silver gray, on blood, coral, exford and cream; every yard our own direct importation and the price is lower than others ask for domestic goods.

A Sale of Men's Shirts.—1st Fl.

This